

**Amendment to the Claims:**What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) In a supported shear of the type in which ~~axially adjacent and integral lengths of linear stock such as tubing are laterally displaced relative to one another along a shear plane at right angles to the longitudinal axis of said stock~~ shears tube stock by lateral displacement of adjacent lengths of stock along a shear plane extending orthogonally through the stock;

a mandrel to be placed within the stock;

~~non-driven ram means~~stationery tooling for receiving and holding said stock;

~~driven ram means~~movable tooling adjacent the ~~non-driven ram means~~ stationery tooling for receiving said stock; and

means including first and second hydraulic cylinders for alternately driving said moveable ~~ram~~tooling in opposite directions through an orbital path relative to the ~~non-driven ram~~ stationery tooling.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said means for driving further comprises:

a pinion connected to said ~~driven ram~~ movable tooling;

a first rack engaged with the pinion and mounted for linear translation to rotate said pinion in a first direction; and

a second rack engaged with the pinion and mounted for linear translation to rotate said pinion in a second direction.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Hydraulic power means for selectively applying hydraulic fluid to said first and second hydraulic cylinders for causing linear translation of said first and second racks in opposite directions.~~

Apparatus as defined in claim 3 further comprising:

power means for causing simultaneous linear translation of said first and second rack in opposite direction.

5. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as defined in claim 4 further including means for varying the power level of said hydraulic power means during translation of said rack.

6. (Original) Apparatus as defined in claim 3 wherein the total linear displacement of said first rack is at least approximately equal to one revolution of said drive shaft.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A supported shear for the bladeless shearing of tube stock disposed on a mandrel comprising:

a first, fixed die for holding the stock;

a second, movable die for holding the stock immediately axially adjacent the first fixed die to define a shear plane between the two dies; and

means for alternately driving the second, movable die in opposite directions through an orbital path.

11. (Previously Presented) A shear as defined in claim 10, wherein the means for driving comprises first and second hydraulic cylinders operatively connected to drive the second, movable die.